



I am deeply honored and extremely excited to join the Washburn University School of Law family. In the short time I have been Dean, I have been gratified and encouraged by the warm receptions I have received from you, our alumni.

Your enthusiasm and support for the Law School reflect a tremendous educational experience that was enriching both professionally and personally. This nurturing educational environment, in which the faculty not only excels at scholarship and is exceptional in the classroom but also is open and accessible to every student, is truly unique among law schools. This extraordinary tradition was one of the powerful attractions for me to Washburn University School of Law. I intend to ensure that this distinctive attribute of our Law School continues to flourish.

Our Law School's regional and national reputation is built upon a solid foundation of excellence in legal education, commitment of the Law School at every level to the success of students, and the diverse educational and professional backgrounds of its faculty members. Washburn Law continues to demonstrate its excellence in numerous areas: the Legal Analysis, Research, and Writing Program was recently recognized in the top 25 in the nation by US News and World Report; we have one of the best student-to-faculty ratios (13.9-1) among all law schools; our moot court teams continue to excel at nationwide competitions; our bar pass rate in 2006 was 90% for Kansas and 92% for Missouri; and our Centers of Excellence and our widely recognized Clinical Program are leaders on the national level. The recent addition of the joint JD-MBA program with the School of Business will further enhance opportunities for our students. We have much to be proud of. One of my primary goals is to "shine the light" on the excellence of Washburn University School of Law, both regionally and nationally.

My years of experience have shown me that organizations that succeed and thrive are those that forge ahead, capitalize on their strengths, and find new opportunities. Organizations that don't do these things tend to wither, wilt, and decay. We will not wither on my watch but rather will press onward to seize opportunities and build on the Law School's tradition of excellence. With your help and the tremendous support of President Jerry Farley, we will move the Law School forward to set the standard for others to follow. If you haven't already, please join me in this great endeavor. Thank you.

*Sincerely,
Tom Romig*

